

March 23, 2011

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For more information contact:
NDDOT Communications (701) 328-4444

US Highway 83 now open from Bismarck to Minot

The North Dakota Department of Transportation (NDDOT) along with the North Dakota Highway Patrol have OPENED US Highway 83 from Bismarck to Minot. Motorists are advised that areas of compacted snow and ice may be encountered along with heavy snow drifts. Motorists are advised that due to freezing rain and heavy snowfall that fell during the storm, areas of compacted snow, ice and rough conditions may be encountered on the roadways along with heavy snow drifts.

Motorists should use caution, reduce speeds, don't use cruise control and allow extra time to reach your destination. Motorists are encouraged to monitor the weather and road conditions prior to traveling.

In other areas of the state road conditions are as follows:

- **I-29 closed** from Fargo to Grand Forks
- **I-94 closed** from Bismarck to Fargo
- A **No Travel Advisory** remains in effect for Fargo, Valley City, Jamestown, and surrounding areas due to blowing and drifting snow, reduced visibility, and continuous snow and ice covered roads. Motorists should not travel in these areas.
- A **Travel Alert** remains in effect for the remainder of the state due to areas of compacted snow and ice and scattered snow drifts. Motorists are encouraged to monitor the weather and road conditions prior to traveling.

For road information, call 511 from any type of phone or go to the website: www.dot.nd.gov.

Please be advised that road condition information on 511 and the travel map is updated daily from 5 a.m. until 9 p.m. CST. The road report is based upon the information available to the NDDOT at the time of preparation and is provided solely as a public service. Conditions may vary from those reported.

NDDOT releases information to inform the public about travel conditions throughout the state. The three categories are as follows:

1. **Travel Alerts** are issued to alert motorists that areas of challenging winter driving conditions may be encountered on roadways. Conditions are such that motorists can still travel; however, they should be aware that rapidly changing conditions may result in travel delays due to reduced speeds and visibility.
2. **No Travel Advisories** are issued when conditions warrant no travel but not a road closure. No Travel Advisories have the potential to change to a Road Closure if conditions deteriorate. No Travel Advisories are issued for public safety to encourage motorists not to venture out onto the roads. Motorists are urged to take No Travel Advisories seriously. Conditions change often during a storm event and motorists may become stranded if they are caught between destinations.
3. **Roads are closed** when conditions create a life-threatening danger to motorists. The roadway is impassable and it is against the law to drive past a road closure device on a closed road. Motorists should obey road closures, even when a sign or a gate is not present.

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